

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1481
Judiciary

(Delegate K. Young, *et al.*)

Civil Actions - Immunity From Liability - Entering a Property to Provide
Emergency Assistance or Medical Care

This bill establishes that specified medical and emergency service personnel are immune from civil liability for entering a property or for any act necessary to enter a property in order to provide assistance or medical care if (1) the act is not one of gross negligence and (2) the person is responding to a 9-1-1 call for emergency assistance. The bill also makes stylistic changes to existing law.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Specified medical and emergency service personnel are immune from civil liability for any act or omission in giving any assistance or medical care if (1) the act or omission is not one of gross negligence; (2) the assistance or medical care is provided without a fee or other compensation; and (3) the assistance or medical care is provided at the scene of an emergency, in transit to a medical facility, or through communications with personnel providing emergency assistance. Covered personnel include any individual licensed by the State to provide medical care and members of any State, county, municipal,

or volunteer fire department, ambulance and rescue squad, or law enforcement agency, if specified qualifying conditions are met.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 723 (Senator Young) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Baltimore, Harford, Montgomery, and Queen Anne's counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 29, 2016
min/kdm

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